THE DAY OF THE OYSTER.

Season Begins With a Plentiful Supply, and

After a dull "extra" season the regular oyster

They're Good Ones, Too.

season will begin to-day with a rush. The

"extra" season is that part of the year made up

of months spelled without the letter "R." Oys-

ters are wholesome enough all the year, but

only the most devoted enthusiasts care for

them in hot weather, and that explains the "R" theory. The oystermen have been work-

"The quality of the oysters this year," said

ing hard for a week to prepare for the season.

"The quality of the oysters this year," said G. W. Boyle, an old oysterman, yesterday, "is better than it has been for ten years. We have succeeded in getting rid of the set of mussels that has been pressing down on the oyster beds for years and weakening the oysters. That set is all cleared off now. The supply will be as abundant as it is line in flavor. The beds at Rockaway, Oyster Bay and in the East River kills are in good condition.

"The New York oysternen will ship to the West about 1,500,000 oysters a day from Sept. 1 to March 1. And then there is the tremendous local trade for the hotels and restaurants. Blue Points are scarce because the price of seed oysters was high and they were not planted. But there are the specialties from Buzzard's Bay and Oak Island for the swell trade, and they are as fat as pork and as sweet as corn this year. They were never better. There are lots of them and they beat the Blue Points."

SOCIAL EVENTS AT NEWPORT.

Harry Lehr Gives a Picnic at Rocky Point

NEWPORT, R. 1., Aug. 8.—The social event

-Saturday Night Dinners.

to-day was an excursion and picnic

by the cottagers at Rocky Point, the Coney Island of Rhode Island. Some

weeks ago one was given by Miss Bell and it

proved such a success that others were prom-

ised. The picnic to-day was given by Mr.

Harry Lehr, and the means of transportation were furnished by Col. J. J. Astor with the steam yacht Nourmahal. The party, which numbout fifty people, left here about 4 o'clock and will return late to-night.

Mrs. E. N. Slater gave a dinner at Hopedene to-night in honor of her guests, the Hon. Thomas B. Reed, and the Hon. John Kean, Senator from New Jersey.

B. Reed, and the Hon. John Kean, Senator from New Jersey.
Prof. Wisner gave the second of his French lectures to-day. It was given at the residence of Mrs. R. H. I. Goddard, and the subject was "L'Imperatrice Eugenie."
To-night dinners were given by Mrs. Lewis Cass Jedyard. Mrs. E. Livingston Ludlow, Mrs. James P. Kernochan Mrs. A. C. Dulles Mrs. William Grosvenor, Mrs. G. S. Scott and Mrs. Henry Clews, the latter in honor of the participants in the wedding of her daughter which is to take place to-morrow at The Rocks, the Clews villa.

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE of Phrenology opens the 36th session Sept. 5 at 5 P. M. Earl Gulles will sing. FOWLER & WELLS CO., 27 East 21st 5t. N.Y.

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REOPENS SEPTEMBER 10.

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KINGSLEY SCHOOL For Boys

THE CLAND WITH A CHARLES AND A CO.

Brief Reviews of Important and Interesting New Publications.

Capt Flower was a man of sensitiveness and it is not surprising that his midnight entrance into the cabin of the Foam, as that tidy astwise schooner lay in her regular berth at Wapping, should have been attended by the manifestations specified in "A Master of Craft," a story without seriousness, but a commendable story notwithstanding, by W. W. Jacobs (Frederick A, Stokes Company) The Captain's entrance was dramatic and hurried, we are told, and his eyes and face were variously mild and harassed. He made so much noise that he woke up the mate, a sarcastic person, who remarked: "Anxious to see me again, I suppose," referring to the Captain's manner of coming in. The truth is that the master of the Foam was engaged to be married to three women, one of whom had just pursued him for a considerable distance through the streets of London, and was now presumably not far away. As she was a woman of great energy and constancy of purpose, and fully determined to marry the Captain, and as one of the Captain's most cherished intentions was not to marry her, he was agitated accordingly. After a feeble attempt to assure the mate that nothing was the matter he entered his stateroom and locked himself in. Meanwhile the watchman on the wharf above, sitting on a post and yearning for human society, suddenly became possessed with the idea of ghosts. Of course he felt the presence of the lady who had pursued the Captain. At the risk of derision and worse he made his way to the forecastle of the Foam and awakened the crew. As he descended into the darkness of the place the justy shores of the seamen fell upon his ears like sweet music, the story tells us, and we may believe if if we can. The objections that saliors have to being awakened by somebody with a ghost story is here illustrated by Mr. Jacobs. George groped about in the bunks.

said a sleepy voice. "Wot! 'Ere, what the blazes are you up to?" "All right, Joe," said the watchman, cheer-

"But it aint all right, comin' down in the dark an' ketchin' 'old o' people's noses. Give me quite a start, you did." "It's nothing to the start I've 'ad," said the

watchman, pathetically. "There's a ghost on "What's the matter?" inquired a sleepy voice

"Old George 'ere says there's a ghost on the wharf," said Joe. "I've seen it three times," said the watchman, eager for sympathy.

"I expect it's a death warning for you George," said the voice, solemnly, "The last watchman died sudden, you remember." "So he did," said Joe.

"His 'eart was wrong," said George, curtly: "ad been for years." Well, we can't do nothing for you, George,

said loe kindly; "it's no use us going up. We sha'n't see it. It isn't meant for us." But they did go up, with a lantern, and they cought Miss Tipping, a tall, good-looking woman of some seven or eight and twenty, hiding behind some bags of sugar. The Captain had courted her under the name of Robinson up at Chelsea, where she was mistress of the Blue Posts Tavern. She now insisted on going aboard the Foam in search of Mr. Robinson. The cabin was quite dark as she entered it, but in a few minutes she could see objects dimly. A steady breathing assured her that somebody was sleeping there, and she thought it might be Robinson, though it really was the mate. Feeling her way to the table, she seated herself and coughed gently. The breathing continued, and she coughed again-twice. The breathing

iug?" asked a surprised voice. "I beg pardon, I'm sure," said Miss Tipping; "but is there a Mr. Robinson down here?" The reply was so faint and smothered that she could not hear it. It was evident that the mate, a modest man, was now speaking from beneath the bedelothes.
"Is Mr. Robinson here?" she repeated loudly.

stopped suddenly, "Who the devil's that cough-

"Never heard of him," said the smothered

"It's my opinion that you are trying to deceive me," said Miss Tipping. "Have you got a

The mate replied that he had not and that he would not give it to her if he had. Sh found a match and lighted the lamp. A red, excited face, with the bedelothes fast about its neck, glared at her from a bunk. "Where does that lead to?" she asked, pointing to the door of the Captain's room. The mate, recalling his chief's mysterious behavior, suspecting him and willing to shield him, replied that it led to the pantry. She went up to it and tried the handle. "I suppose that's a leg of mutton I hear asleep

in there," she said with accerbity. You can suppose what you like," retorted the mate. "Why don't you go away? I'm

"You'll be more surprised before I've done with you," said Miss Tipping, with emotion. "My Fred's in there and you know it." "Your Fred!" said the mate.

surprised at you."

"Mr. Robinson," said the visitor, correcting

"I tell you there isn't anybody in there except the skipper," said the mate. "You said it was the pantry just now," re-

torted Miss Tipping. "The skipper sleeps in the pantry so's he can keep his eye on the meat," explained the

"What sort of a man is he?" inquired Miss "You'll soon know if he comes out," said

the mate. "He's the worst tempered man afoat, I should think. If he comes out and flads you here I don't know what he'll do." "I'm not afraid of him," said Miss Tipping with spirit. "What do you call him? Skipper?"

The mate nodded and Miss Tipping tapped at the door. "Skipper!" she cried. "Skipper!" There was no answer and she repeated her

"He's a heavy sleeper." said the mate. "Better go away. There's a good girl." She ignored him and continued to rap and

all. Suddenly she sprang back with a scream. A reply burst from within with the sudden-Dess and fury of a thunderclap. Certainly It bore no resemblance to Robinson's voice, direumstance due to the fact that the captain used a speaking trumpet. Even the mate membled as the voice proke forth. "Hulloal" it said.

"My goodness!" Miss Tipping exclaimed. What a voice! What a terrible voice!" Presently she recovered herself and again oproached the door. "Is there a gentleman

"Gentleman named who?" came the thunder-

"Robinson," said Miss Tipping faintly. "No! No!" said the thunderdap. It added with an awful rumble: "Go away! Go away! The mate was perceptibly trembling under the bedclothes, but Miss Tipping persisted. "I

care say his bark is worse than his bite," she aid. "Anyway I'm going to stay here. Presently she began to laugh. The mate was no expert, but he realized that this was hysteria. "Chuck some water over yourself," he said, with concern, nedding toward a jug which stood on the table. "I can't very well |

get up to do it myself." She managed to control herself without the to hour, "I suppose you think I'm acting

strangely," she said. Oh. don't mind me," returned the mate, who, as we have said, was addicted to sar-"Don't mind hurting my feelings or

taking my character away." Pooh! you're a man," said Miss Tipping. "but, character or no character, Imgoing to see into that room before I go away.

t here for three weeks. "How are you going to manage about eating and drinking all that time?" said the mate.

"How are you?" said Miss Tipping. "You can't get up while I'm here, you know." Well, we'll see," said the mate vaguely.

The title of the book calls the Captain a master of good English very many are chosen from graft, and it is true that he did manage to poems. They are not instances of poetlo li-

get rid of Miss Tipping finally, but while his craft served to extricate him from a generous succession of difficulties, it is noticeable that it got him into just as many as it ever got him out of. Still there is no reflection to be cast

upon this tale. The reader will need to go a long way in order to find one that is more Mr. Ainsworth Rand Spofford is the author of "A Book for All Readers" (Putnams), which is designed as an aid to the collection, use and preservation of books, and the formation of sublic and private libraries. The rash accumulation of works already printed and the ever-increasing flood of new books poured out by the modern press appai Mr. Spofford and arouse in his mind a feeling of dismay, if not of despair. He asks—and there is a certain pathos in the question-who is sufficient for these things? What life is long enough and what intellect strong enough to grapple with them? But consolation comes the thought that, after all, the really important books bear but a small proportion to the mass; that many books are but repetitions and many writers mere echoes, and that, as he expresses it, the greater part of literature is the pouring out of one bottle into another. Therefore he thinks that if we can get hold of the few really best books we can well afford to be ignorant of all the rest. And it may perhaps be reasonable to conjecture that the reader who has made himself master of Plutarch's Lives has before him a gallery of heroes which will give him more instruction in the elements of character than a whole library of modern biographies; or that the student of the best plays of Shakespeare may economize time by treating the dramatic works of Mr. Paul Potter or Mr. Harry B. Smith with comparative neglect; while he whose imagination has been fed upon Homer, Dante, Milton, much sense, put in language that cannot be Burns, with a few of the world's masterpieces in single poems may possibly not concern himself too seriously with Mr. Gilder and the magagine poets. In fact, in literature, as in another branch of culture, it seems to be advisable to educate the palate by a careful selection of the bottle or the brand that suits it, and in a chapter on the choice of books Mr. Spofford gives some valuable and entertaining hints. In the selection of books for public libraries the librarian is often placed in a position of some difficulty. In the matter of fiction, for example, what is he to do? Experience shows that this particular class of literature is the favorite mental food of about three readers out of four. All the more important, therefore, is it that he should make a wise and improving selection of that which helps to form the minds

of multitudes and especially of the young. Weak and flabby and silly books tend to make weak and flabby stlly brains. How then shall the librarian find out among the world of novels from which he is to select what is wholesome and what is unhealthful, what is improving and what is trash? Here Mr. Spofford comes to his aid. "As for the later issues of the press, and especially the new novels, let him," he says, "skim them for himself, unless in cases where trustworthy critical judgments are found in journals. Running through book to test its style and moral drift is no diffi-cult task for the practised eye." This seems to be reasonable advice. It is not fair to expect that the unfortunate man should read them all, any more than it would be fair to expect that the expert who wishes to pronounce upon the flavor and quality of a cheese should eat the whole cheese. "Let us suppose," continues Mr. Spofford, "that you are cursorily perusing a novel which has made a great sensation and you come upon the following sentence: 'Eighteen millions of years would level all in one huge, common, shapeless ruin. Perish the microcosm in the limitless macrocosm! and sink this feeble, earthly segregate in the boundless, rushing, choral aggregation!" This, as he tells us, is from one of Augusta J. Evans

Wilson's stories, and we are bound to admit that here Augusta certainly seems to have let loose what Mr. Boffin would have called a scarer, and we are in entire sympathy with Mr. Spofford when he asks, "What kind of a medel is that to form the style of the youthful neophyte?" Mr. Spofford has chapters upon book buying, bookbinding, the art of reading, the formation of libraries, classification, catalogues and many other subjects, and a chapter on the humors of the library contains some urious and amusing matter. Among recen calls for books in a Western library we find one for "Dant's Infernal Comedy," and another for "Darwin's Descent on Man;" while one optimist asks for Victor Hugo's "Less Miserable," and another inquirer wants Feminine Cooper's works, and still another asks for "something light in the way of friction." Among a number of specimens of answers in examinations of candidates for library employment we note that of the genius who discovered that Richard Wagner invented the Wagner cars, and of another who tells us that "Dante is an exceedingly bitter writer; he takes you into hell and describes Satan and his angels. He wrote his play for the stage." The word "pedagogy" seemed to be something of a poser. By one it was described as "the science of religion," by another as "the study of the feet;" while by a third, who perhaps builded better than he knew, it was concisely summed up as "learned pomposity." As a specimen of neat

juvenile book to the library: "I don't want any more of them books. The girls is all too holy. A valuable and interesting volume is edited by Walter L. Pyle, M. D., under the title of "A Manual of Hygiene" (W. B. Saunders & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.). Its object is to set forth plainly the best means of developing physical and mental vigor and to give an exposition of proper living, upon a physiologic basis, Subjects of such general interest as eating, drinking, breathing, bathing, sleep, exercise, &c., are discussed thoroughly by several contributors and from several standpoints. The hygiene of the digestive apparatus, and that of the skin and its appendages, of the vocal and respiratory organs, the ear, the eye and the brain and nervous system are all concisely and adequately discussed by competent authorities, purely technical phraseology being avoided as far as compatible with the scientific value of the text, while numerous explanatory dia-

and summary criticism we may conclude with

the remark of a small boy on returning a certain

grams and illustrations are added. The path of knowledge is smoothed for youth nowadays in every way, and all possible sturnbling blocks are removed. If it is the more attractive on that account to those fated to learn whether they will or no, no grown-up person probably can tell, and time alone will show the results of simplified and more rational methods of education are superior to those which left the pupil to struggle for himself and preferred to put obstacles in his way for the sake of mental discipline. A great deal is being done to make the study of the English language more intelligible by doing away with much of the traditional rubbish of the old-style grammars, and there is perhaps too great a tendency to translate old-fashioned definitions and rules into a words-of-one-syllable vocabulary. lish "grammar," however, can be pruned of much deadwood with no harm to any one, and Mr. Huber Gray Buchler, English master in the flotchkiss School, seems to have performed the task with a good deal of judgment in "A Modern English Grammar" (Newson & Company). Common sense seems to rule assistance of the water. After sitting for half in Mr. Buehler's little book. In the first place he starts with the idea that his pupils are not little foreign savages with no idea of English, but on the contrary ingenious young persons who have spoken English of some kind since they could first lisp and who, presumably, would like to make sure that they may speak and write it like the grown people they respect. He consequently puts the cart before the horse, as it were, and avoiding all mention of the dif-

ficulties of the parts of speech, plunges at once

assumes with reason, is giving his youthful

hearers more trouble than do the irregular

plurals of nouns or the forms of the strong

verbs. Moreover in the selection of examples

into the construction of sentences, which, he

cense or poetlo construction, but phrases that follow usually the prose rules, yet on account of the rhythm or the rhyme can be retained more easily in the infant memory. After the management of the sentence has been dealt with, he takes up the peculiarities of the parts of speech. Here a catholicity of spirit toward common usage is shown as well as a disinclination to formulate rules that should make the old grammarians turn in their graves. For instance, only the fact is stated regarding the collective nouns: "We refer to a committee as 'It' when we think of it as a whole; when we think of the members who compose it we use the pronoun 'they.' Similarly we say, 'The jury has retired,' thinking of it as a single body; The jury have dined,' thinking of the members. A practical reason is given for the grammatical mportance of gender, namely, that on gender depends the right use of pronouns. The pupil is led, very wisely, to shun the diffi-culties with which grammar or logic waylay him. Where two subjects of different persons are employed the question may arise, for example, whether to say, 'Either he or I is mistaken,' or 'Elther he or I am mistaken.' Instead of plunging into a tempting discussion of why one or the other of these two forms is right Mr. Buehler, dealing with children who are trying to learn correct English, suggests that they had better avoid the difficulty by rearranging the sentence, and shows how it may be done in various ways, as; 'One of us is mistaken.' Throughout the effort is to enable the pupil to express his meaning correctly and not to drill rules into him. Over and over again the explanation given for a statement is that it is the more common usage among good writers, not that it is the rule of grammar. Children are told that "the subjunctive is much less used than it was formerly, but it is still common in the writings of authors who are artistic and exact in expression." There is

misunderstood, in Mr. Buehler's little grammar Mr. Frank G. Carpenter's "South America Social, Industrial and Political" (The Saalfield Publishing Company) is "the outcome of a journalistic expedition to South America in search of information for the American business man and the general reader." The author devoted a whole year of travel to the task and visited every country on the Continent. As is only natural he saw a great many things. Whether his observations seem hasty or satisfactory will depend probably on the reader's point of view. The book is of value, however, for even the globe trotter can give information about countries of which little is known. It is astonshing how hard it is to obtain statements in English about our South American neighbors hat can be trusted as having something of scientific accuracy, Mr. Carpenter did an amazing amount of sightseeing on his trip and used his photographic camera to som advantage.

We have also received:

"A Pair of Knaves and a Few Trumps." M. Oouglas Flattery. (The Abbey Press.)
"The Princess Ahmedee." Roland Cham-

pion. (Godfrey A. S. Wieners.) "The Sun Maid. A Story of Fort Dearborn." Evelyn Raymond. (E. P. Dutton & Co.) "China's Open Door." Rounsevelle Wildman.

(Lothrop Publishing Company.) "Continuous Contracts for Teachers." C. W. Bardeen. (C. W. Bardeen.)
"Mr. Bunny, His Book." Adah L. Sutton

(The Snaifield Publishing Company.) "Anima Vilis. A Tale of the Great Siberian Steppe." Marya Rodziewicz. (Dodd, Mead "Until the Day Break." Robert Burns Wilson.

Charles Scribner's Sons.) "The Maid of Maiden Lane." Amelia E. Barr. (Dodd, Mead & Co.) "First Aid to the Young Housekeeper.

Christine Terhune Herrick. (Charles Scribner's Sons.) "Recollections of a Missionary in the Great West." The Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

"The Nuttall Encyclopædia of Universal Information." Edited by the Rev. James Wood. (Frederick Warne & Co..) "African Nights' Entertainment." A. J. Daw-

son. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)
"The Plain Miss Oray." Florence Warden. (F. M. Buckles & Co.)

President Morse Asserts That It Isn't Barred

From the City Contract. The American Ice Company is going to bid for the contract to furnish ice for the city departments from Oct. 1 to Dec 31, in spite of the clause in the specifications to the effect that the contract will not be awarded to any company in which any member of the city government is interested, directly or indi-

"That clause doesn't debar us," said President Morse of the American Ice Company yesterday. "It's only a routine thing that occurs in every call for bids. The stock of this com-pany is in the open market and is changing hands all the time. We can't tell whether a city officer happens to be a stockholder or not. It's ridiculous to give some sorehead the power. a small stock purchase, to prevent a con-ct from being awarded to any responsible

ANOTHER EXPOSE BY COLER. He'll Publish a List of Bonds Held Up by the Municipal Assembly.

Comptroller Coler is preparing a list of bonds which are being held up because the Municipal Assembly does not get together to take action on them. As a result of this inaction the interest is piling up at the rate of 6 per cent. and costing the city about \$1,000 a day. The bonds that have been held up were authorized for the purchase of land for parks, schoolhouse sites and street openings. The awards for the property have not been paid and the owners are not pressing their claims because their interest is accumulating. Mr. Coler said that the public ought to know all about it and that he would make a statement relative to the bonds to-day. The Municipal Assembly now stands adjourned to meet Sept. 18.

CHEEVER .- At Cedarburst, on Thursday, Aug. 80, 1900, Gertrude Youngs, wife of John

D. Cheever. Funeral services at her late residence, Cedarhurst, L. I., Saturday afternoon, Sept. 1, 1900, at 4:30

CONTANT .- On Friday. Aug. \$1, 1900, suddenly Ida P., wife of C. A. Contant Funeral services at her late residence, 728 St. Nicholas av., Sunday, Sept. 2, 1900, at 10 A. M.

Interment at Newburgh, N. Y. Friends will kindly omit flowers. KIMPTON.-On Friday, Aug. 31, 1900, at 11:80 A M., Edward, beloved husband of Elizabeth Robins Kimpton, in the 72d year of his age. Funeral services at his late residence, 21st and

Cropsey avs., Bensonhurst, borough of Brooklyn. Sunday afternoon, Sept 2, 1900, at 5 o'clock. Interment private. English papers please copy. REESE .- At Lancaster, Ohio, in the 68th year of her age. Elizabeth Sherman, widow of the late Gen. William J. Reese.

Philadelphia papers please copy. RICE.-VETERANS OF THE SEVENTH REGIMENT. -Members are requested to attend the funeral services of Arthur T. J. Rice (Seventh Company) on Saturday, Sept. 1, 1900, at 109 East 79th st .. THOMAS DIMOND, Colonel.

THE KENSICO CEMETERY.—Private station.
Hariem Railroad; 5 mittures ride from the
Grand Central Depot. Office, 16 East 42d at

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### Religious Notices.

GRACE CHURCH. Broadway, corner 10th st. Holy Communion, 8 A. M. Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11 A. M. Evening Prayer and Sermon, 8 P. M. All sittings free.

New York
University
Law School
Classes, sessions 8 to 10 P M. (LL. B. after three years). Evening Classes, sessions 8 to 10 P M. (LL. B. after three years). Evening Classes, sessions 8 to 10 P M. (LL. B. after three years) Graduate Classes lead to Ll. M. Tultion, \$100. For circular, address.

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GEORGE CHASE Dean. REV. RAPHAEL BENJAMIN. M. A., will Dictate in 58th Street Temple during the approaching Jewish holidays.

New Publications.

Postponement

Owing to the impossibility of manufacturing enough copies to fill advance orders on the date announced, the publishers are forced to postpone the delivery of

The Master Christian

One of the most remarkable books of recent years

Marie Corelli

First edition, in America and England,

**150,000** Copies

Dodd, Mead & Co., Publishers, New York.

## McCLURE'S

Contents for September

Special Articles

How the Swiftest and Costliest of Ocean Steamships, the new "Deutschland" of the Hamburg-American Line, was Built.

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